

Waterfront Park Self-Guided Public Art Tour



1) “Tetra” by Charles O. Perry (1929-2011)

Located in the Festival Plaza – this bronze sculpture celebrates the laws of nature and the geometry inherent in natural forms. Tetra was a gift to the Waterfront Park by the children and grandchildren of Sara Shallenberger Brown in honor of her 85th Birthday.

2) “Gracehoper” by Tony Smith (1912-1980)

Located on the Overlook near the Great Lawn, this steel sculpture is the second in the series by the American Sculptor. The experience in viewing the iconic piece is dynamic, viewers can walk around, under and through the sculpture. Named for a central passage in James Joyce’s *Finnegan’s Wake*. The sculpture is on loan from the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts.

3) “Flock of Finns” a tribute to beloved Louisville folk artist Marvin Finn (1913-2007)

Located adjacent to the South Great Lawn. This colorful gathering of 28 fanciful steel bird sculptures are based on original artworks by Finn. Finn was born in Alabama as a sharecroppers son and had many siblings. He did not have many toys as a child and learned to whittle his own from wood. He moved to Louisville after WWII and continued to create toys for his children and grandchildren. His wife used a jigsaw to cut works that Finn drew. These colorful renditions are a delight to all park passersby and some measure as high as 9 feet.

4) “Lincoln Memorial” by Ed Hamilton

This area of the park was created as part of the Lincoln Bicentennial celebration and is part of the Lincoln Heritage Trail. The Memorial features a 2.5 times life size version of Abraham Lincoln who is seated on a rock and is approachable. There are 4 bas reliefs which tell the story of Abraham Lincoln’s life and were co-created between Hamilton and Juliette Erlanger. The Memorial is a lovely place for a picnic lunch in the amphitheater which is inscribed with famous phrases from our 16th President who saved the Union and ended slavery in the United States. The memorial was funded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the family of Harry S. Frazier, Jr., and the Kentucky Historical Society/Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.